mortem report also confirms the death as being due to massive injury in the head region and brain haemorrhage.

(c) It is reported that the European Parliament has called upon India to save the Tiger, but no official communication has been received so far,

(d) The Concrete steps taken by the Government are indicated in the statement.

Statement

(i) A "Tiger Crisis Cell' has been set up in the Ministry;

(ii) The State Governments "have been advised to strengthen vigilance intensify patrolling;

(iii) Funds are being provided to the State Governments for the cco-development of the areas to reduce the biotic pressure thereon.

(iv) A protocol has been signed with the Government of the Peoples Republic of China to coordinate bilateral efforts to stop illegal activities of poaching of tigers and to endeavour jointly combating of smuggling and the illegal trade of tiger bones and other parts of its body.

(v) A memorandum of understanding has been signed with His Majesty's Govt. Nepal to address wildlife related issues.

(vi) Steps have been initiated by the Government to establish the "GLOBAL TIGER FORUM" for strengthening international cooperation to curb poaching of tiger and to coordinate efforts for the conservation of tiger and its habitat throughout the range.

(vii) In the X Conference of Parties of CITES revised resolution has been adopted for control of trade and consumption of tiger parts, products and derivatives in consuming countries.

(viii) Higher allocation has been demanded in IXth Plan for conservation of Tiger and other wildlife on which the Tiger prey upon.

Toxic Release Inventories of Industries

358. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA; Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state by when Government are going to make it mandatory for the industries to publish toxic release inventories and other relev ant details and force them to adopt eco-friendly options and a cleaner technology even if it is going to cost more?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ); There is no proposal under consideration of the Ministry of Environment and Forests to make it mandatory for industries to publish toxic release inventories. According to Rule-12 of the Environment (Protection) Rules 1986 the person incharge of the industry is required to intimate forthwith the release of environmental pollutants in excess of prescribed standards or any apprehension about such relese to the concerned authorities. The Government in its Policy Statement for Abatement of Pollution has emphasised that large and medium industrial units will remain totally responsible for control of pollution. The Policy Statement also states that assistance will be provided to small scale industrial units for adoption of cleaner technologies.

World Bank's Global Environment Facility

359. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a), what is the magnitude of resource flow—commitments and disbursement—from the World Bank's Global Environment Facility to India since its inception and until 31st March, 1997;

(b) whether Government are satisfied with the quantum of this flow; and

(c) if not, what measures are contemplated by Government to increase this flow?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Growing Demand of Rhino Horn

360. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a growing demand for Rhino horn in East Asia and its parts for arms by North Eastern extremists have been pushing the Indian one horn Rhinoceros to the brink of extinction;

(b) whether it is a fact that Rhino horn can fetch upto Rs. 8 lakh per kg.;

(c) what steps have been taken to effectively prevent killing of this endangered animal; and

(d) the number of Rrhinos killed during the past six months (January—June, 1997) and the comparative figures for the preceding two spells of 6 months each?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) No, Sir. Although there has been tremendous pressure of poaching of Rhino due to growing demand of Rhino horns in East Asia, for east and some Arabian countries, India still holds seizable viable population of Rhinos and there is no immediate threat of extinction of the species from India.

(b) One Kg. of Rhino horn can fetch a price of about Rs. 15 lakhs in the international market.

(c) The steps taken to effectively prevent killing of this endangered animal are as given below:

(i) Rhino is placed in Schedule I of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 thus getting the highest level of protection against hunting and commercial exploitation.

(ii) India is a party to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and abides by the regulations of International trade in endangered species of animals and articles made thereof. Under the provisions of the convention, Rhino is placed under Appendix I of CITES which bans international trade in the species, products and derivatives.

(iii) Cooperation of Police, BSF, DRI, Customs, Army and other enforcement agencies is also taken, as and when required in apprehending the poachers and illegal traders.

(iv) With a view to providing alternative home for Rhinos and also rehabilitating them in their erstwhile habitat programme for 'Rehabilitation of Rhinos' has been started in Dudhwa National Park and Katcrniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary of Uttar Pradesh.

(v) A network of 5 Wildlife sanctuaries and 4 national parks has been set up for conservation of the species and its habitat. Financial assistance is provided by the Central Government for development of these national parks and sanctuaries, on request from the State Government.

(vi) There is a scheme for payment of rewards to the informers,